Serial No.: 09/615,233

## **REMARKS**

## **Status Of Application**

Claims 1 and 3-13 are pending in the application.

## **Claim Amendments**

Claims 1, 11, and 13 have been amended to more clearly articulate that which is being claimed. These changes are not necessitated by the prior art, are unrelated to the patentability of the invention over the prior art, and do not introduce any new matter.

## **CONCLUSION**

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Any fee required by this document other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Serial No.: 09/615,233

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

Rv.

Kathy E. Needleman Registration No. 47,816 Attorney for Applicants

KEN/llb:bar:rb SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP 717 N. Harwood, Suite 3400 Dallas, Texas 75201

Direct: (214) 981-3474 Main: (214) 981-3300 Facsimile: (214) 981-3400

April 24, 2003

DA1 261238v3